

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 EA-09

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /119 W

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R 200024Z APR 76

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6984

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

UNCLAS USUN 1653

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UN

SUBJECT: ELECTION OF NEW UN SECRETARY GENERAL

1. ON MONDAY APRIL 19, UN/OPI PRESS SPOKESMAN, POWELL, TOOK NOTE OF THE "NEW YORK TIMES" ARTICLE OF APRIL 17 ABOUT CANDIDATES TO FILL THE POSITION OF UN SECRETARY-GENERAL WHICH BECOMES VACANT AT THE END OF THIS YEAR. CANDIDATES MENTIONED BY "NEW YORK TIMES" CORRESPONDENT HOFMANN INCLUDED, IN ADDITION TO THE INCUMBENT WALDHEIM, AMBASSADOR CARLOS ORTIZ DE ROZAS OF ARGENTINA, AMBASSADOR FEREDOUN HOVEYDA OF IRAN, PRESIDENT LUIS ECHEVERRIA ALVAREZ OF MEXICO, AMBASSADOR IQBAL AHMED AKHUND OF PAKISTAN, AMBASSADOR HAMILTON SHIRLEY AMERASINGHE OF SRI LANKA AND AMBASSADOR SALIM A. SALIM OF TANZANIA.

2. AFTER STRESSING THAT HE HAD NO COMMENT TO MAKE ON THE ARTICLE AS A WHOLE, PRESS SPOKESMAN POWELL READ THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF SECRETARY-GENERAL  
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WALKHEIM:

QTE " THERE IS ONE POINT THAT REQUIRES CLARIFICATION IN THE MATTER OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S AVAILABILITY. THE SG HAS STATED ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS THAT THE ELECTION OF THE SG IS A MATTER ON WHICH THE UN MEMBERSHIP HAS TO EXPRESS ITS WISHES. THIS IS NORMALLY FIRST DONE THROUGH CONSULTATIONS. IF IT WERE TO BE THE DESIRE OF THE MEMBERSHIP THAT HE CONTINUE TO SERVE THE ORGANIZATION FOR ANOTHER TERM, THE TIME WOULD THEN HAVE COME FOR HIM TO DETERMINE THE QUESTION OF HIS AVAILABILITY". UNQTE

3. POWELL NEXT REFERRED TO WALDHEIM'S MOST RECENT PUBLIC STATEMENT ON THE SUBJECT IN GENEVA ON APRIL 9 WHEN WALDHEIM WAS REPLYING TO A QUESTION. WALDHEIM HAD SAID: "IT IS UP TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO DECIDE ON THIS MATTER. THERE IS NO ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN FOR THE ELECTION OF THE UN SECRETARY GENERAL, RATHER IT IS A QUESTION OF THE WISH OF THE MEMBERSHIP WHICH MUST MAKE THEIR OPINIONS KNOWN IN THIS REGARD. AT THE RIGHT TIME I SHALL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE MY INTENTIONS KNOWN."

4. POWELL SAID THAT HE ISSUED THESE STATEMENTS UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL. POWELL HAD NO COMMENT TO MAKE AS TO WHEN WALDHEIM MIGHT CONSIDER THE TIME RIGHT TO MAKE HIS INTENTIONS KNOWN.

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## Message Attributes

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